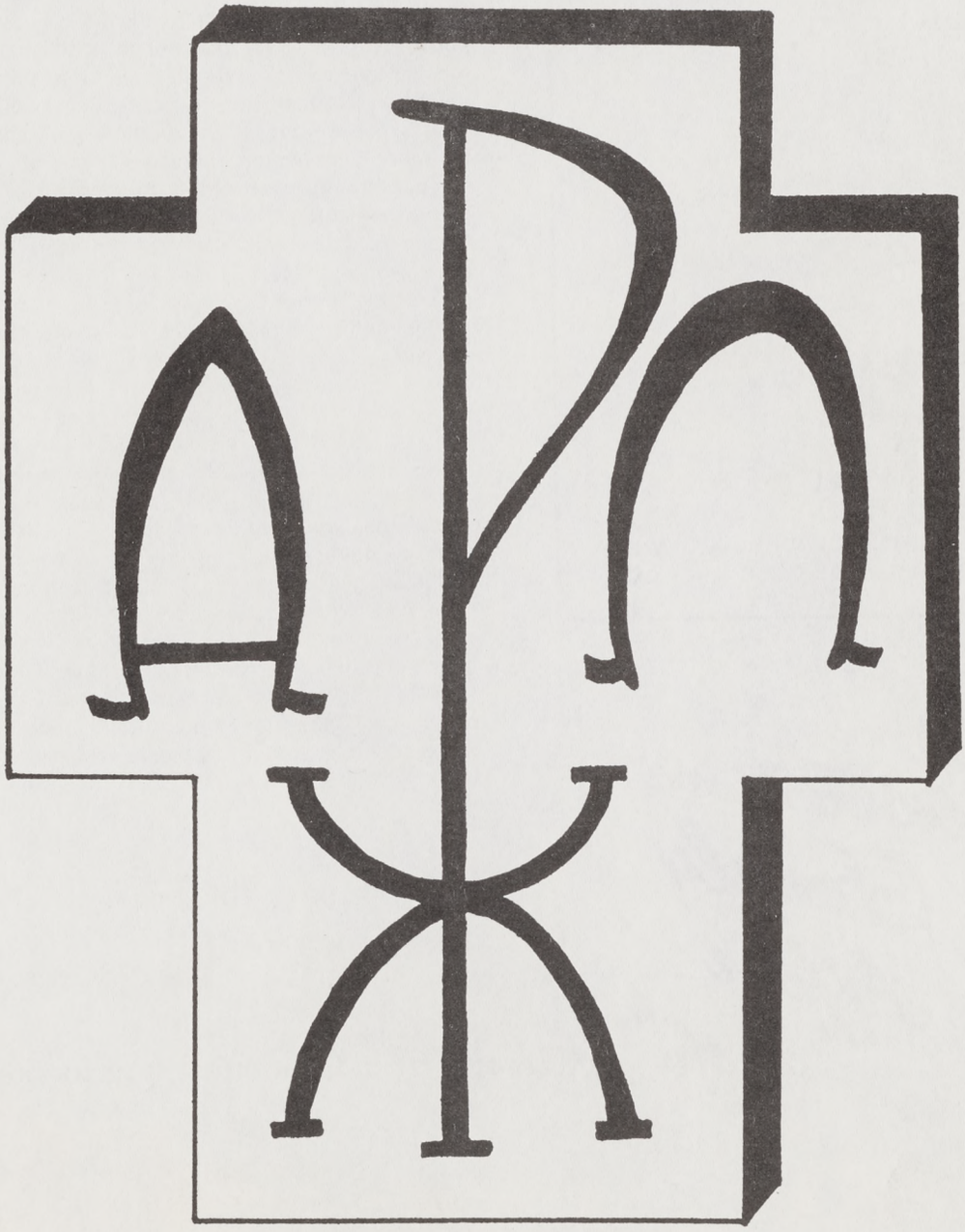
MCC NEWS

VOLUME III LOS ANGELES, CA. APRIL 11, 1971 NO. 26

DONATION 25 ¢

HAPPY EASTER



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All articles to be published in The MCC News MUST be signed. If you are concerned enough to write, and we hope you are, be concerned enough to sign your articles, etc..

THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

By LARRY CALVIN

"LET'S get down to the crux of the matter!" "Man, you're hedging!" "What is the heart and core of this issue?" Our age can truly be said to be one interested in getting down to the "nitty-gritty"—"where the rubber meets the road." Whether it involves personalities or political issues or any of the petty paraphernalia which pervades our public and private lives, the cry is the same: "Peel away the facade—cut the act, man—let's get down to the 'gut' issues—the crux of the matter."

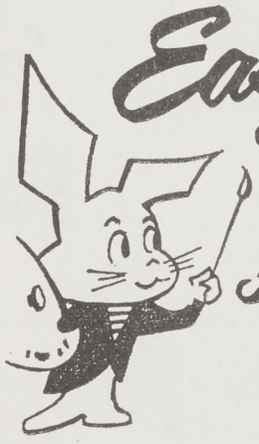
It is not paradoxical that in an age characterized by the cry: "Let's get to the crux!" so many continue in the age-old attempt to dodge the cross (Latin: crux) of Christ, which is, in reality, the crux of it all.

The cross stands at the pivotal point of history. Hanging on it is the man who separates B.C. from A.D. Prophets looked forward to him. Historians look back upon him. We can attempt to dodge the cross as did some of the early Jews—for to them it was, indeed, a stumbling block. We can call it folly as did the early Greeks—they felt that its "foolishness" presented no challenge to their minds which were constantly engaged in philosophical speculation.

Or, as have millions, we can fall at the feet of the one hanging there, allow his blood to cover our sins; and then, having been cleansed, we can hasten to the empty tomb to allow the resurrection power to permeate our lives.

One thing is sure. We cannot ignore completely the cross. It **is** a page of history—a black page, possibly, in that it portrays in a dramatic way man's inhumanity to man—but a **real** page, just the same. And to those who willingly yield to its cleansing power, the **greatest** page in all history.

So let's get down to the crux of the matter. Let's commit our lives to the Christ of the cross. Then, daily taking up our cross, we will discover the ability to live without sham and pretense —we will have peeled off the facade—we will, indeed, have discovered the crux—the heart, the core—of real life.



Easter is a Family Affair at the Metropolitan Community Church

BEACH PARISH

South Bay Parish was proud to present Ron Hayes and his slide presentation on Peru to some 40 or more people at our meeting at MCC L.A. on March 26. Although there were hardships to endure, his slides gave testimony to the fact that he was constantly ministering to the needs of his fellow man. It was most obvious that he had created a bond of love that would not be broken -- in spite of the fact that he was forced to leave South America.

It's not often that we get a second chance in life, but occasionally we do. For those of you who missed out on this exciting evening, and for those of you who want to hear and see more, we are going to prevail upon Ron to repeat his show when we start having our Wednesday night prayer meetings at MCC itself.

Our next meeting will be back at the Beach, at the home of Norman and Larry, 2020 Graham, Redondo Beach, on Wednesday, April 14, 8 pm. At that time, we will be privileged to hear Lee Spangenberg as our speaker of the evening. We've had the pleasure of hearing Lee (not often enough) bring his message in song. And we're looking forward to hearing from this same young man who was fasting right alongside Rev. Perry on the steps of the Federal Building. Won't you join us?

Arthur Lichtenberger, when Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, quoted this Lenten advice:

Fast from criticism, and feast on praise.
Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy.
Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace.
Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.
Fast from jealousy, and feast on love.
Fast from pride, and feast on humility.
Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.
Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

—*Anglican Digest*

PRAYER GROUP

God is manifesting Himself in a special way in our prayer group.

If you need a spiritual blessing, healing for your body, or any other need, join us at the Church each Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Leave your requests for special prayer at the Church office.

Thom Jones

A cynic once said:
"Good resolutions are simply checks that man draws on banks where they have no account."

But good deeds are solid gold that man puts into banks that compound interest everyday.

from *Newsweek* Magazine.

DEACON'S EASTER DINNER

On Easter Sunday the Deacons will put on their annual Easter Dinner. The Dinner is a service of your Deacons to the community. It will be a complete dinner, with all the fixings, for the nominal charge of $1.50.

There are many in our Church who have no families with which to spend the holidays, and we in Christian fellowship wish to share this Holy Season with all our friends. Come and be with your Church family on Easter.

If you can not afford to pay for dinner, see your Deacon and he will give you a free ticket. No one at M.C.C. goes without because of money. Remember, M.C.C. is Love.

Rev. Paul Van Hecke, Evangelist at Large for Metropolitan Community Church, performed a wedding, poolside, at the Franciscan Apartments, 1630 Cahuenga Blvd., E., Hollywood, Calif.

The newly-married couple was Louis Gallardo to Judith Dulhunty, residents of the Franciscan Apartments. They had heard about our Church and are very sympathetic to our cause. They were very happy, when they asked Rev. Van Hecke to marry them, to learn that he was affiliated with MCC. In attendance also were Rev. Ken Jones and B. C. Van Hecke, son of Rev. Van Hecke. The wedding music was played by folk singer, Mr. Scott Johnson, on the guitar. Van caught the bridal bouquet by mistake. (Or was it?)

MCC/SAN FRANCISCO HAS A COMMUNITY CENTER !!

After months of frustration in searching for a location to coordinate the activities of MCC/San Francisco, the Ad Hoc Committee has selected a structure for our Community Center. Centrally located downtown at 1760 Market Street, near Valencia, the MCC Community Center is readily accessible by both public and private transportation.

Congratulations from all of us at MCC/LA.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BENEFIT EVENT, SATURDAY, APRIL 17th, 1971, 8:00 P.M. -

Informal readings in prose and poetry by author CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD.

Mr. Isherwood is guest again of the Society of David, this time in the style of his own choice -- reading works from his collection of favorites and delights. Those who have heard Mr. Isherwood before will remember his wit, warmth, and congeniality. Mr. Isherwood is author of, among others, *Berlin Stories*, *World In The Evening*, *Down There On A Visit*, *Meeting By The River*, and *A Single Man*.

This meeting will be hosted by Hank Barley, 1350 Summit, 276-1935. Take Benedict Canyon north from Sunset Blvd. go three blocks, right turn onto Summit. Wind up hill following yellow and white lines to very wide driveway alongside white board with 1332 on it. Park around bend, downhill side. In Beverly Hills.

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."
(Phil. 2:13)

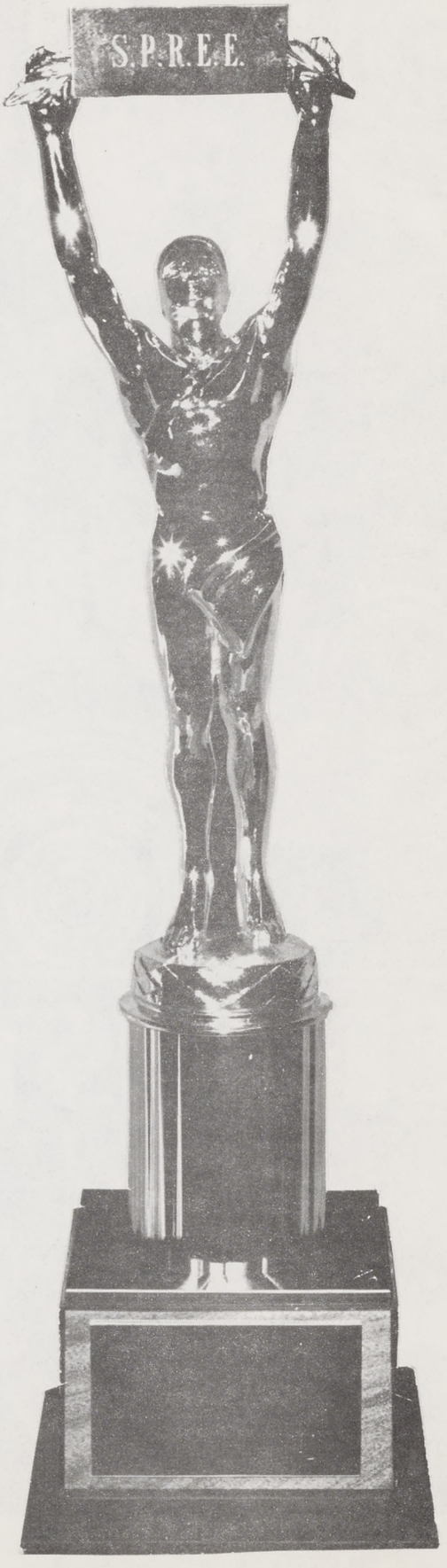
To be sensitive is good, because sensitive people are aware of a thousand interesting and beautiful things which are lost to those that are not sensitive. To do any creative work you have to be sensitive, because the creative worker is a "receiving set" for the divine mind.

Our community is enriched by sensitive people that have built walls around them to prevent an intruder from harming the beauty that lies within their sould, and we at M.C.C. who have obeyed the calling of God must seek out these people and with love break the barrier and guide our brothers and sisters to a fuller and richer life through Christ, for this is the pleasure of God.

As we seek these souls out we must be very careful as we tunnel through this wall that we do not destroy the beauty that lies within that soul.

Rev. Ken Jones
Minister of
Visitation

THE 2ND ANNUAL SPREE AWARDS



TUESDAY

APRIL 13th

Troupers Hall

1625 N. LA BREA
NEAR HOLLYWOOD BLVD.

8:00 P.M.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

LEE GLAZE

SPECIAL GUEST STARS

PLUS SOME

'SURPRISES'

CHRISTOPHER ST.

the Gay Parade WEST

SUNDAY • JUNE 27 • 7 P.M.

HOLLYWOOD BLV'D.

Be sure to__

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 12th	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
TUESDAY, APRIL 13th	8:00 pm	VALLEY PARISH MEETING AT BOB BAKER'S, 5348 ALLOT AVENUE, VAN NUYS. PHONE 789-2966 FOR DIRECTIONS.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14th	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
FRIDAY, APRIL 16th	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
SUNDAY, APRIL 18th		THE ACADEMY:
	9:30	"THE LIFE OF CHRIST"
	9:30	"ETHICAL PROBLEMS"
	10:15	CHOIR REHEARSAL
TUESDAY, APRIL 27th) TUESDAY, MAY 11th) TUESDAY, MAY 25th)	8:00 pm	VALLEY PARISH MEETING AT BOB BAKER'S, 5348 ALLOT AVENUE, VAN NUYS. PHONE 789-2966 FOR DIRECTIONS.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

APRIL 11th	DEACON'S EASTER DINNER IN THE SOCIAL HALL AFTER SERVICES.	
APRIL 17th	TEEN DANCE - 8:00 pm IN THE SOCIAL HALL.	
APRIL 24th	CHRISTOPHER STREET WEST COMMITTEE DINNER IN THE SOCIAL HALL - TIME TO BE ADVISED.	
MAY 22nd	MAY FESTIVAL - 8:30 pm THE FACTORY 622 NO. LA PEER WEST HOLLYWOOD	DONATIONS: $5.00
JUNE	M.C.C. VAUDEVILLE: PLACE TO BE CONFIRMED.	
JULY	SEA CRUISE TO CATALINA: DATE TO BE SET.	

Third Annual

MAY FESTIVAL

$5

THE FACTORY

622 N. LAPEER

W. HOLLYWOOD 8:30 PM

MAY 22, 1971

Free VEGAS TRIP

SPECIAL ATTRACTION:

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET TROUPE

"IN CONJUNCTION WITH "THE ODYSSEY CLUB"